



St.
Anne
CATHOLIC CHURCH

December 10, 2023

2nd Sunday in Advent

2nd

Sunday
OF ADVENT



825 S. Ortonville Road | Ortonville, MI 48463 | 248-627-3965 | churchofstanne.org

WELCOME TO ST. ANNE CHURCH

Thoughts from Fr. John

The Mystery of Christmas and Giving

A well-known religious joke goes like this: A man walked to the top of a hill to talk to God. The man asked, "God, what's a million years to you?" And God said, "A minute." Then the man asked: "Well, what's a million dollars to you?" And God said: "A penny." Then the man asked: "God...can you give me a penny?" And God said: "Sure...In a minute."

This joke, I am sure, is inspired by the bible verse 2 Peter 3:8: "With the Lord, one day is like a thousand years and a thousand years like one day" (cf. Ps 94:4). The joke exposes a conundrum that we simply cannot have the material wealth with our finiteness (i.e., time). This conundrum made me (re)think about the Christian belief in Jesus's Birth (incarnation). Namely, Christian faith indeed claims that—in the birth of Jesus, who is "the Word became flesh" (John 1:14)—we are enabled to embrace this earthly life with our finiteness.

The Christian thought about Jesus Christ's Nativity (incarnation) flourished during the Middle Ages with thinkers like John Duns Scotus (1265–1308) and Francisco Suárez (1548–1617). They sketched a Christian answer to how we can live a "rich" earthly life and yet enjoy the eternal bliss through Christ's birth. The innovativeness of their thought was that they revived the belief in God's love for humanity ("God so loved the world that He sent his only son" (John 3:16).

For example, Suárez speculated that Jesus would have become incarnated had we not sinned. This thought reemphasizes that God's love was expressed through Jesus's Nativity regardless of whether humanity had sinned. Because God wants us to share his divine life and the only way to accomplish it is through Jesus, who joins the heaven and earth together and conquers death with his rising up to life. Jesus's Nativity saturates God's love, which moved away from some of the Christian sole emphasis on sin. Because of our sins, God sent his Son to redeem us.

In other words, it is God's love, the ultimate reason why Jesus was born to us. The removal of sins of the world is the by-product of God's mercy, so to speak. Indeed, we did sin, and we do need Jesus more than ever to remove our sins so that we can see God's unconditional love in the incarnation. Therefore, Jesus is the ultimate Gift of and the Co-Giver of God's love and mercy. Practically, we can contemplate how God gives His Son for us in love this Advent and Christmas season. Our giving must participate in this giving of love, not only the gifts themselves but also the givers. Also, our imagination of a "wealthy" life is too limited and cannot go beyond a "penny." On the contrary, we need to take "a minute" so that God can give us a life beyond our wildest imaginations in Christ's Nativity.

MASS TIMES

Sunday Masses

Saturday Vigil Mass 4:00 pm

Sunday: 8:30 & 10:30 am

Mass during the Week

Tues., Wed., Fri. at 9:00 am

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation

Saturday 3:00 pm or by appointment.

Matrimony

Couples should contact Julie Neal at Ext. 1 at least six months before the marriage.

Infant Baptisms

Second Sunday of the month. Please contact Julie Neal at Ext. 1.

PARISH STAFF

Moderator

Rev. Scott Thibodeau

Associate Priest

Rev. John Chen

john.chen@churchofstanne.org

Director of Religious Education

Marianne Boesch, ext. 4

Worship Coordinator

Julie Neal, ext. 1

Evangelical Charity

Karyn Milligan, ext. 3

Music Ministry

Laura Knaack, Director

Denise Arpke, Accompanist

PARISH OFFICE

Phone 248-627-3965 | Fax 248-627-5153

Office Hours: Mon. Tues, Wed. & Friday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Closed for lunch between 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Music Ministry

Laura Knaack, Director

Denise Arpke, Accompanist

Accountant

Cheryl Yuhas, ext. 6

Office Manager

Anne Schulz, ext. 0

Building Maintenance

Steve Szach, ext. 0

Mission Support Director

Maureen Burton

248-623-0274 ext. 125

Knights of Columbus

Bill Vengler, 248-909-2136

Community Quilts & Crafts

Mig Lane, 248-1544

Weekend of December 16th & 17th

Mass	Steward	Lectors	Eucharistic Ministers	
Sat. 4:00 p.m.	Denny Anderson	Ken & Angela Sheperd	Karyn Milligan Ruth Rogan	Chris & Alison Elmes Mary Grocott
Sun. 8:30 a.m.	Judy Sounart	Gerard Schmidt Kathleen Russell	Linda Mizejewski Lloyd Schmaltz	Nancy Seery Denise Nowakowski
Sun. 10:30 a.m.	Bruce Kocer	Jim Slasinski Kevin Travis	Stephanie Mackey Jan Tait	Mo & Sharon Voyer

Altar Linen

12-10-2023- Jean Zubalik
12-17-2023- Ruth Rogan

Altar Care

12-15-2023
Large Church Cleaning

Recycling Ministry

Dec. 9/10-23/24- Tom Newcomb
Jan. 13/14-27/28- Pat Bardel



In Our Prayers

Andrew Siring
Todd Patterson
Gloria Boesch
Pat Flees
Patrick Lamb
Sue Bruggeman
Ariana Stephens

Mass Intentions

Saturday, 12/9/2023 at 4:00pm

Pat Fabean, by Ruth Rogan
Fred & Carol Andre, by Family

Sunday, 12/10/2023

8:30am: Sr. Judy Jones,
by Friends

10:30am: Phillippe & Gabrielle
Simonean, by Diane Knowles

Monday, 12/11/2023 at 9:00am

Mass at St. Daniel

Tuesday, 12/12/2023 at 9:00am

Pedro Lopez, Milio Legaspi, by
Linda Lopez

Wednesday, 12/13/2023 at 9:00am

Catalina Arrieta, by Linda Lopez

Thursday, 12/14/2023 at 9:00am

Mass at St. Daniel

Friday, 12/15/2023 at 9:00am

Tom Rogan, by Friends

Saturday, 12/16/2023 at 4:00pm

John Persky, by Ruth Rogan

Sunday, 12/17/2023

8:30am: Deceased members of the Donald McGee Family

10:30am: Louis and Jocelyn Pare, by Diane Knowles

Please call the parish office to
add a prayer intention.



REMEMBER
in your prayers

Rejoice!

GAUDETE SUNDAY CELEBRATION



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17
4-6PM**

**Join us in the church at 4pm. All Ages Welcome!
No Registration Needed**

Advent/ Christmas Concert
Tree Lighting
Reception in Social Hall
Visit with St. Nicholas
Cookies & Hot Cocoa
Children's Crafts

St. Daniel Parish
7010 Valley Park Dr
Clarkston, MI 48346



**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP
RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**

The World Is Pregnant

There is a character, Rose of Sharon, in John Steinbeck's *Grapes of Wrath* who is pregnant with her first child. As her impoverished family migrates from their native Oklahoma to California, Rose of Sharon's all-consuming preoccupation is her unborn child. Everything she eats, every drink she lets pass her lips, every action she takes — none of it is done without thought for the child that is still so small as to make his mother's expectancy barely discernible to the naked eye.

"For Rose of Sharon was pregnant," wrote Steinbeck. "And the world was pregnant to her."

It is the same for us Christians in the Advent season. We can feel a change coming, and the hope of this change consumes us. It shapes our actions and our plans, we feel it in our hearts and in our souls and in our limbs. From the food we eat to the clothing we wear to the words we use, the unseen Child lives and breathes and works in every small part of this blessed season.

Even the commercial clamor that is the secular "Christmas holiday" cannot fully distract us from the holy sense of anticipation we have. We are baptized, and so it is inside of us, this voice that cries out in the desert. When we hear it, we cannot help but listen.

The Virgin is pregnant, and the world is pregnant to us.

"We await new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells." — 2 Peter 3:13

Christmas Food Collection Through Dec. 15

This year we will be helping ~100 families. Listed below are the items that are needed to help our families. Thank you for your donations!

*Boxed Potatoes *Boxed Pie Crusts *Canned Fruit Canned
*Cranberry Sauce *Evaporated Milk *Canned Soup
*Boxed or Canned Broth *Cake Mix *Frosting *Jello/Pudding
*Gravy Pie Filling *Pumpkin *Canned Veggies
*Muffin/ Quick Breads *Boxed Stuffing
(30 Bueche Gift Cards (to purchase meat and fresh food)

**Why do we do that?
Catholic Life Explained
Our Lady of Guadalupe**

Question:

Is Our Lady of Guadalupe only a cultural devotion?

Answer: You may be familiar with Our Lady of Guadalupe from devotions in Hispanic communities. There is a rich heritage originating in Mexico, the site of the apparition of Our Lady of Guadalupe. But Mary is for all of us! Our Lady of Guadalupe is, in fact, named the patroness of all the Americas, from the Chilean Patagonian mountains to the Arctic islands of Canada. After Mary appeared to St. Juan Diego as a young, mestizo woman, conversions to Catholicism began to grow exponentially throughout Latin America. Our Lady of Guadalupe has been meaningful to the Mexican people, and her image and devotions have been incorporated as broader symbols of culture.

Juan Diego, recipient of the apparition, was a poor laborer. The famous image of Our Lady of Guadalupe did not appear on silk or stone, but on the simple, natural woven fibers of Juan Diego's tunic. The apparition affirms the dignity of the poor and shows striking solidarity. Mary appeared as the people appeared. In the apparition, Mary is indeed radiant, with the sun behind her and a cloak of stars around her. But her dress is simple, and she is pregnant. This apparition also reminds us of the sanctity of life and the need for life's protection at all stages. Mary's moving words to Juan Diego are words for us all: "Am I not here who am your mother? Are you not under my shadow and protection? Are you not in the folds of my mantle, in the crossing of my arms?"

WHAT'S HAPPENING @ ST. ANNE'S

Youth Group

Middle & High School Teen Christmas Party

December 17 6:30-8:30pm

Join us for food, friends & fun! Bring a \$15 white elephant gift for our gift exchange. Christmas PJs or sweaters encouraged but not required. Please RSVP to Stephanie Mackey 248-431-1268

Save the Date for RISE Detroit 2024

This High School Teen Conference is scheduled for Sunday, Feb. 4 from 9:00 am - 7:15 pm at Mercy High School in Farmington Hills. We had 5 attendees last year and are hoping to double our numbers this year. Contact Stephanie Mackey at stephaniesmackey@gmail.com or 248-431-1268 if you are interested in attending.

Sundaes & Scripture will resume on Jan. 7 at 7 pm in Hardy Hall. We will be kicking off a small group bible study on the book of Exodus. Join us to learn about the life of Moses and eat ice cream sundaes.

Saturday, Dec. 23, 2023, the Vigil of the 4th Sunday of Advent

3:00 pm Confession & 4:00 pm Mass

4th Sunday of Advent

8:30am and 10:30am (Sun)

Sunday, Dec. 24, 2023, Christmas EVE

4:00 pm (children's choir)

9:00 pm Mass



Monday, December 25, 2023

8:30am and 10:30am (Mon)

OFFICES CLOSED from Dec. 26 and Dec. 29

No mass Tuesday



Candle Intention

In Memory of Patrick Lamb
By wife Ruth Rogan
Dec. 15-22

Children's Christmas Choir

We would love the children to participate in the 4pm Children's Christmas Eve Mass. We will practice on Sundays after the 10:30am Mass.

If your child is interested, please contact Julie Neal.

Church Cleaning for Christmas

On Friday, December 15th after the 9am Mass we will be giving the church a good cleaning in preparation of Christmas. Please join us if you can. Many hands make light work!



Community Quilts & Crafts

12/16 10am-2pm

Meetings are held the Saturdays and Tuesdays of every month. All are welcome -- quilters and non-quilters; those in need of service hours or fellowship.

Email or call for more information:

Mig Lane migobrien@yahoo.com

248.249.1544

Angie Sheperd

alsheperd19@gmail.com

248.249.1542

Bulletin

Deadline:

Noon Monday

Bulletin Article Submission:

If your organization is hold an event, we are happy to post it in the bulletin as space allows. Writing, proofreading, and submitting an announcement is the responsibility of the sponsoring group. All bulletin content is subject to review by the priest and/or parish staff and content may be edited or declined.

